

## 505<sup>th</sup> keeps a watchful eye over Bagram



*Spc. Emmanuel Parial (front) and Sgt. Johnny Rogers, both from 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 505<sup>th</sup> Parachute Infantry Regiment check in all directions during their observation tower shift.*

Story and photos by  
Staff Sgt. Christina Bhatti  
*11<sup>th</sup> Public Affairs Detachment*

**BAGRAM**, Afghanistan — Keeping servicemembers safe is the name of the game for those who man the towers that surround the base.

Working 12-hour shifts the infantrymen of Company B., 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 505<sup>th</sup> Parachute Infantry Regiment keep keen eyes on the area surrounding the base.

The company's platoons rotate shifts between roving patrols and the observation posts. After their 12 hours, they are given 8 hours of off time and become part of the Quick Reaction Force.

————— See **TOWERS**, Page A4

## Kandahar wraps up Hajj flight facilitation



*Afghans perform an ablution, or ritual purification, before praying.*

Story and photos by  
Spc. Jim Wagner  
*109<sup>th</sup> Mobile Public Affairs Detachment*

**KANDAHAR AIR FIELD**, Afghanistan — Soldiers from the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division wrapped up the last Hajj flight Monday, putting an end to a mission that has great religious significance in this Muslim country.

Since the time of Hajj began in early January, more than 7,000 Afghans have filed through the gates of Kandahar to take an Ariana Airlines flight to Mecca. Ensuring the experience was a success came down to 82<sup>nd</sup> members from Task Force Devil and support assets.

The Hajj is the one of the five pillars of Islam, an annual pilgrimage to the site of the final resting place of the prophet Mohammad — at Mecca in Saudi Arabia. To be considered a true Muslim, members of this religion must make the pilgrimage once in their life.

U.S. soldiers were responsible for providing a safe environment for Hajj pilgrims to load onto the aircraft in Kandahar and get to Saudi Arabia. There are four other Hajj departure sites in the country: Mazar-E-Sharif, Kabul, Herat, Jalalabad and Kabul. Hajj depart-

————— See **HAJJ**, Page A4

# World News (Compiled from CNN.com)

## U.S. Marines killed identified

**WASHINGTON** — Maj. Jay Thomas Aubin, Capt. Ryan Anthony Beaupre, Cpl. Brian Matthew Kennedy and Staff Sgt. Kendall Damon Watersbey were the four Marine crew members killed aboard the U.S. CH-46 Sea Knight helicopter that crashed early Friday in Kuwait, according to a statement from the Department of Defense.

The eight British military personnel aboard also were killed in the crash, which occurred as the helicopter was flying through heavy wind and a sandstorm.

"We've lost some of our family, and when anyone loses a member of their family it's not something that is taken lightly," said Major Curtis Hill at Camp Pendleton.

"We mourn the loss of these Marines."



*A fighter plane launches from the USS Harry S. Truman en route to a strike against Iraq Friday.*

## Firestorm targets Iraqi leadership

**BAGHDAD**, Iraq — U.S. forces plan to drop more than 1,500 bombs and missiles across Iraq in the first 24 hours of its "shock and awe" campaign that began Friday, Pentagon officials said.

Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld said the air campaign had shaken up the regime of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, which he said is "starting to lose control of their country."

"The confusion of Iraqi officials is growing," Rumsfeld said at a Pentagon briefing. "Their ability to see what is happening on the battlefield, to communicate with their forces and to control their country is slipping away."

Rumsfeld said the bombing was stepped up Friday after senior Iraqi officers failed to

turn against Saddam following initial U.S. airstrikes Thursday, including one aimed at Saddam himself, and a U.S. and British invasion of southern Iraq.

## U.S. in talks for surrender

**WASHINGTON** — Iraqi expatriates have been facilitating negotiations among CIA operatives, U.S. military officials and senior members of the Iraqi Republican Guard inside Iraq aimed at achieving a peaceful surrender of Iraq, CNN has learned.

The expatriates, including Kurdish leaders and former military commanders who have "active contact with the Iraqi military," have been having "face-to-face discussions with senior members of the Iraqi Republican Guard in the last 24 to 36 hours," an administration official told CNN.

There "has been some receptivity to the idea, [but] it's not a done deal," the official said.

## Iraqi villagers welcome U.S.

**SAFWAN**, Iraq — Videotape shot by Kuwaiti TV crews Friday showed about a dozen villagers, most of them adult men, warmly welcoming American soldiers who arrived and briefly took up positions in the village of Safwan.

The men, a few children, and one woman spoke to at least three soldiers who got out of their vehicles.

Many shook the soldiers' hands or embraced them, and some kissed the soldiers' cheeks.

"God bless you, thank you very much," said some of the villagers, according to translations by Kuwaiti TV.

## Iraqi officials try to look calm

**BAGHDAD**, Iraq — Iraqi officials tried to reassure citizens amid waves of U.S.-led airstrikes Friday, broadcasting patriotic appeals and images of President Saddam Hussein despite Western speculation he had been killed in an early attack.

With the sound of bombs exploding outside, Iraqi state television broadcast pictures of what appeared to be a military briefing by Defense Minister Ahmed Sultan Hashim.

## Troops seize key oil fields

**WASHINGTON** — U.S. and British troops have seized, in lightning raids, two strategically important airfields in western Iraq and strategic oil fields in southern Iraq, according to a senior U.S. military official.

The two western Iraq airfields, known as H-2 and H-3, are considered important to the continued military operation inside Iraq.

The field known as H-3 is also considered by U.S. intelligence to be a potential site of Iraqi weapons of mass destruction, according to an informed official.

## Vital Iraq port taken by allies

**UMM QASR**, Iraq — Allied troops have taken control of the strategically important Al Faw Peninsula, including the port town of Umm Qasr, a U.S. defense force spokesman has said.

The area is a strategic gateway to southern Iraq and its main oil pipeline terminals but also provides the only access to the Persian Gulf.

Lt. Col. Rick Long, spokesman for the 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Expeditionary Force, said the area had been taken Friday afternoon.

UK Defense Secretary Geoff Hoon said the port town of Umm Qasr will act as a major conduit for humanitarian aid.

## Turkish troops cross Iraqi border

**ANKARA**, Turkey — More than 1,000 Turkish troops were reported to have crossed the border into northern Iraq Friday. A Turkish military press attache would neither confirm nor deny the report, but said he would issue a press release later.

The troops were spotted shortly after Turkish Defense Minister Vecdi Gonul said his country agreed to open two air corridors for U.S. planes to use for air attacks in Iraq.

In Washington, a senior State Department official told CNN that U.S. officials were not notified of any troop movements and considered the issue to be "still under discussion."

The United States fears there will be clashes between Turkish and Kurdish troops.



# PM prevents, identifies spring, summer insects

Story and photo by  
Pfc. Debralee P. Crankshaw  
11<sup>th</sup> Public Affairs Detachment

**BAGRAM, Afghanistan** – With the rainy season here soldiers should be concerned with insects.

Keeping the disease carrying insect population to a minimum is preventive medicine's responsibility.

Preventive medicine placed 12 light traps throughout the base to classify and count insects.

They are placed in specific sties once a week from dusk to dawn to trap insects.

The light traps look similar to a lantern. The insects are drawn to the light where a fan pulls them into a plastic and mesh container.

When counting and classifying the insects, preventive medicine pays special attention to mosquitoes and sand flies because they are vectors for disease.

Counting the insects is not the only course of action preventive medicine takes.

To limit mosquitoes, because they may carry Malaria, preventive medicine brings breeding areas – standing water, to the attention of base operations. It usually takes one to two weeks for the eggs to turn into adults so they are most concerned with water standing for that long.

The rainy season is March and April.

"The water doesn't drain well on base so during the rainy season we will see a lot of standing water, but during the summer most of the water will evaporate," said Capt. Cory Campora, commander, 791<sup>st</sup> Preventive Medicine Detachment.

If it is not possible to drain the water, preventive medicine uses chemicals called larvicide which kill the larvae in the water. The chemicals last 150 days.

Preventive medicine is not anticipating a large mosquito problem, but is ready with pesticides if any problems arise.

Most mosquitoes caught last summer were not Anopheles – malaria carrying, but according to Campora that is no reason to stop taking malaria medication.

"All it takes is one to bite you and infect



*Capt. Cory Campora, commander, 791<sup>st</sup> Preventive Medicine Detachment assembles a light trap to catch insects during the night so preventive medicine can count and classify them.*

you. The risk is still there," he said.

Sand flies are another problem insect here. They lay eggs in soil with organic material such as trash, feces and urine. They can also carry Leishmaniasis, a parasite which moves into the blood causing sores that won't heal.

Sand flies "fly" in short hops so feet and other things low to the ground are their targets.

"Because of the risk of sand flies, people shouldn't wear (physical training uniforms) or flip-flops to the shower," said Campora.

For a soldier to further avoid Malaria and Leishmaniasis, they should treat their uniforms.

"Treating your uniform is 97.7 percent effective in preventing mosquitoes and sand flies from biting and passing diseases and parasites as long as the uniform is worn properly – pants bloused in boots and sleeves rolled down," said Campora.

Servicemembers should notify preventive medicine if they are having problems with biting insects or if they notice standing water.



*An infantry man from 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 505<sup>th</sup> Parachute Infantry Regiment keeps an eye from his vantage point on his team's tower.*

## **TOWERS**, from Page A1

"These guys work hard and are dedicated to what they do," said 1<sup>st</sup> Sgt. Lamarquis Knowles, 2-505 first sergeant.

But they are not alone. Their task is a joint effort with the military police, Air Force assets and members of the Afghan Military Force.

"We work hand-in-hand to provide a mutual security," said Capt. Mike McGuire, 2-505 commander.

Building the relationship between Afghanistan and the U.S. is very important, McGuire said. The AMF plays an important role in the security of the base.

The unit has been on tower duty for about two weeks. "We wanted to get them on this duty and familiarize them with the landscape before the war with Iraq started," said McGuire.

The unit is taking extra precautions in case there are issues here, but Knowles and

McGuire are both confident the abilities of their soldiers and know they can handle what comes at them.

"The guys are trained," Knowles said. "They know what to look for and they know the procedures in case there is something that is not right."

It is important for the soldiers to be able to identify possible threats and risks, said Knowles. To make this happen the same teams man the towers. To avoid predictability, shift times vary.

"It's so important that we avoid all predictability," McGuire said. "The threat is out there and it is our job to keep it from coming in here."

If the men in the towers do see something that is suspicious they will make a radio call to make the operations center aware and then appropriate action will be taken.

"Anything can happen," said Spc. Benjamin Dozier, Co. B, 2-505. "It is our job to make sure that everyone here is safe."



*Hajjis deplane after returning from the Mecca Monday.*

## **HAJJ**, from Page A1

tures from these cities are handled by the Islamic Transitional Government of Afghanistan/Transitional Islamic State of Afghanistan. The only exception was Kandahar, which was run by the U.S. Army.

For U.S. troops in Afghanistan, a safe departure and arrival for Hajjis reaps goodwill that spreads throughout the six provinces served by Kandahar Air Field and is an important component of the Army's mission to win the hearts and minds of the civilian populace.

"The Hajjis are important in this culture, the people in villages look up to them informally as something like a village elder or mayor," said Lt. Col. Walt Pjetraj, a civil military affairs officer at Kandahar.

When Hajjis return to their villages, he said, in addition to the stories they'll bring back about the pilgrimage will be stories of the Americans who helped them get there and back again.

"(Our) sheer presence made it a success," Pjetraj said. "What better way to get the word of the red, white and blue than to have them see us helping them."

For many Afghans, the flight was the first time many saw an American. Returning from a religious pilgrimage, exhausted and wanting only to get back home, many were nervous to see U.S. troops around the aircraft as they waited to deplane.

Z. Fateh, an Afghan interpreter working for the 82<sup>nd</sup>, said he boards each returning plane before Hajjis depart to reassure them.

"You could tell them over the aircraft public address system, but they never listen to that," Fateh said. "I'll just walk up and down the aisles and talk to them in small groups to tell them that the Americans are here to help them."

From the aircraft, Hajjis are taken to a staging area where they pick up their luggage and wait for busses to take them to the front gate and back to their homes.

The business of Hajj flight management is serious business in Afghanistan. On Feb. 15, 2002, Abdul Rahman, interim minister of air transportation and tourism, was killed by a mob when he tried to board an aircraft, while pilgrims complained of repeated flight delays and inadequate shelter.

According to Pjetraj, the 82<sup>nd</sup> had complete control over the departure and arrival process, which made the Hajj flights in Kandahar a success.

"From what I've heard from civil authorities and air crews, Kandahar has been the best place to depart and arrive," he said. "That's a tribute to all the hard work done by everyone involved."

# FREEDOM'S VOICES

*Are you a transforming mammal, bug or dinosaur?*

## Just my Opinion

Patrick Swan  
Public Affairs Officer, Office of the U.S.  
Army Chief of Information Systems

Something happened a long time ago that led to change on our planet.

One popular theory is that a large meteor crashed into the Earth, dramatically altering the environment. As a result, we believe the dinosaurs perished, the bugs stubbornly survived and the mammals thrived.

A few years ago, another meteor slammed into the Earth, at least in a figurative sense. We call that meteor Army Knowledge Online, <https://www.us.army.mil>.

Since its inception in 1999, AKO has delivered the tools, information, and services that best helps the Army to serve the country at any time and from every station. AKO is the pivotal tool in transforming the Army into a knowledge-based organization. And, as the one stop for Army information, AKO is strategically changing the way the Army does business.

It enables greater knowledge sharing among Army communities, provides a career lifetime e-mail address, a customizable portal, online transaction-processing capabilities, and is accessible to its customers anywhere in the world. To face the many challenges of a changing future, AKO continuously enhances its capabilities as technology is developed and the needs of

the Army demand.

And the thing is, AKO is not some abstract concept that is "coming soon" to a post, camp or station near you. It has already hit the Army — and hit the Army hard. How well soldiers and civilians adapt to AKO will determine whether they trot in the footsteps of the dinosaurs, bugs or mammals of our day.

Those soldiers who emulate dinosaurs are those who generally avoid computers. They still do things by hand (rather than by fingers on a keyboard). They fill out leave forms by hand. They plot their movements with grease pencil over acetate on hard-copy maps. They share information in person with only the first rung in their chain of command. These soldiers are dinosaurs in the network-centric, transformed Army of the 21st Century. They don't look for new ways of doing business.

Other soldiers will acknowledge AKO by dutifully, if not reluctantly, signing up for AKO accounts, as required by the 2001 joint memorandum from the secretary of the Army and chief of staff. But, that's as far as they'll go. Rather than exploring the benefits and resources offered on AKO, they'll shun what is new and innovative for what is known and tried. These soldiers will still use their unit or installation e-mail addresses — and have to change them each time they

See **AKO**, Page B2

## STREET TALK

*How do you think the war with Iraq will affect us here?*



"I think we'll get a little bit of pressure — discontentment and fighting, here, but not much."

**Spc. Maria Kurtzweil**  
32<sup>nd</sup> Blood Support Unit  
Fort Bragg, N.C.

"It might keep use here a little longer because of units rotating out. It will also probably slow the phones down."

**Staff Sgt. Karl Utter**  
3/229<sup>th</sup> Aviation  
Fort Bragg, N.C.



"It will probably affect our resources because the main focus will be on moving everything to Kuwait."

**Col. Melvin Roberson**  
Chief of Staff  
Coalition Task Force-82



"It shouldn't affect us much. We know our mission and things aren't going to change much."

**USAF Senior Airman Camon Tucker**  
455<sup>th</sup> Expeditionary  
Operations Group  
Vandenberg AFB, Calif.



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## Artistic soldier beautifies base

Story and photo by  
Pfc. Debralee P. Crankshaw  
11<sup>th</sup> Public Affairs Detachment

**BAGRAM, Afghanistan** – The brush strokes across the board, filling color into the wood — brightening and inspiring.

Spc. Howard Scott tries to brighten and inspire people here by drawing and painting works of art. His work is mainly for the chapels.

When Scott's command discovered he was an artist, by viewing some of his work, they asked him to paint a board of Army emblems. This was only the beginning of his projects.

"When they asked me, I was very humbled and shocked," said Scott. "I thought, 'If I don't do it someone else will.'"

The board of emblems is complete, but still needs a polyurethane finish. His only project that is complete and displayed is the sign naming Dragon City's Enduring Faith Chapel.

Scott is currently working on a piece for the hospital chapel. He has been asked to paint two additional signs and is looking into another project for the Enduring Faith Chapel.

This is currently only a hobby for Scott, but he hopes to reclass from radio transmitter/switch operator to graphic artist. If that opportunity doesn't happen, he plans to attend college and pursue graphic arts or a similar field.

When Scott, 35, was in Kindergarten a state college was testing small children for a talent in art. Scott turned out to be one who had the talent.

He has been naturally drawn to creating art ever since.

Before joining the Army, Scott was a freelance artist.

"I didn't see my art going anywhere. I never saw the opportunity," said Scott.



*Spc. Howard Scott, radio transmitter/switch operator, 48<sup>th</sup> Combat Support Hospital, poses with his finished work, currently displayed at the Enduring Faith Chapel.*

"That's why I want to be bolder in my work when I get back."

Scott wants to make his work bolder, but really only one opinion matters to him – his own.

"People give all kinds of reactions to my work. An artist wants a reaction or they're not doing something right.

"Sometimes they say, 'That's great,' some people say, 'I've seen better.' Art is perceived as an expressed opinion and they have a right to their opinion," said Scott. "But it won't influence my opinion."

According to Scott, his greatest influences were his art teachers in high school.

"I didn't see eye to eye with all of them, but they influenced me a lot," he said.

With his art, Scott continuously tries to improve.

"I always try to outdo myself. I try to see how much more skill I can develop," said Scott.

Scott finds creating art is a better alternative to what other people do in their free time.

"I'd rather do this than watch movies, which is what most people do in their free time. It seems a more productive use of time," said Scott.

In addition to painting and drawing for productivity, Scott also does it for more personal reasons.

"It relaxes me because it seems natural to me. I find solitude. I usually draw and paint when I am alone," said Scott. "It's therapeutic."

Although creating art is a passion for him, Scott does have one problem with his art here.

"Sometimes, I kind of hate doing art here. Since I need to finish the art fast, I pick a color and isolate the area it needs to go," said Scott.

"Usually, I use as many colors as I can and mix them for tints and hues. There is so much beauty and so much color in the world," he said. "I don't like being reduced to so few. I like to match colors with the world."

# Afghan Info: Afghans celebrate Noroz

By Pvt. 2 Terri Rorke  
11<sup>th</sup> Public Affairs Detachment

**BAGRAM, Afghanistan** – With the birds chirping and the wheat sprouting, a new spring season is beginning in Afghanistan, as well as the new year or Noroz.

Noroz, or “new day,” is simultaneously celebrated with the spring equinox in many Central Asian Republics including Iran, Turkey, Azerbaijan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Afghanistan.

For many centuries, people have been commemorating March 21 for the annual sowing of crops in anticipation of a bountiful harvest, said Said Yusof Wayezi, an interpreter here.

But Afghans do more than just wish for good crops. Having prevailed through a Greek invasion, the Mongols’ destruction and the spread of Islam, most of Noroz’s historical festivities and customs are still carried out today.

On Noroz, it is common in Afghanistan to see families picnicking in the fields and planting trees.

Some will venture to Mazar-i-Sharif to watch Boz Kashi – the national sport. Others will go to pray to prophet Mohammed. Contrary to popular belief, Noroz is not parallel to Islamic religion, said Wayezi.

Some other customs include giving money to children, wearing new clothes, coloring hard-boiled eggs, baking sweets and



Photo by Zia Atmar, interpreter

*An Afghan in Kandahar makes bread for the celebration of Noroz.*

preparing Sabzi Challow, which is a traditional New Year’s Eve dish made with Sabzi (spinach) and rice (brenj). The majority of the country waits to eat this dish for the occasion, said Wayezi.

Born in Kabul, Wayezi said he traditionally celebrated Noroz growing up. But when the Taliban took over, he said he left for America. For six years people were forbidden by the Taliban to celebrate how they were used to. Wayezi said he remembers a

peaceful country with no civil law.

In just one year, the country has changed for the better, said Wayezi. After interpreting on the base here for several months, Wayezi said he sees women attending Kabul University without burqas and people carrying out their customs more liberally.

As Wayezi celebrates Noroz peacefully with some hot tea and fruit, U.S. soldiers enforce safety measures to ensure stability and security in the nation for years to come.

**AKO**, from Page A5

change duty stations. They will clog our limited bandwidth by e-mailing huge files to multiple accounts. They will save files to their local “shared drives.” They will scurry like bugs on the outer edge of AKO, but are easily squashed by advances in technology.

The soldiers who will thrive in the AKO world, as the mammals did in olden times, are those who clearly embrace all the Army Portal offers. They’ll send digitally encrypted e-mail to other us.army.mil addresses. They’ll post large files to AKO’s knowledge collaboration centers for com-

ment, thereby saving huge swaths of bandwidth for war fighters to use. These soldiers will make AKO an integrated part of how they operate.

For sure, some soldiers find transformational change to be difficult. Soldiers who allow themselves to become as relevant as the dinosaurs will surely go the way of the dinosaurs as well.

Soldiers who allow themselves to merely scurry around the edge of the Army are more bugs than key players.

But, the soldiers who embrace AKO and all it offers will find themselves integral to daily operations of this network-centric Army.

The metaphor of mammals, bugs and di-

nosaurus is just a more colorful way of saying there are three types of people in the Army. Those who make things happen are the mammals. Those who watch those who make things happen are the bugs. And those who say, “what happened?” well, they are the dinosaurs.

Informed soldiers who use AKO as a routine part of their daily mission are the ones who are making it happen for the Army. On the fast-paced, highly lethal battlefields of the 21st century, these “wired” soldiers allow us to see first, understand first, act first and finish decisively. The time is now for us all to become AKO mammals if we want to win and thrive in the Army of One.

# Chaplain's corner

By Chap. (Maj.) Marvin Luckie  
CTF-82 Chaplain

It is a basic objective of military strategy to seize the high ground on the battlefield. You don't want to sit in the valley and have the enemy lob live shells on you.

You want to be on the high ground because whoever has the high ground has the advantage.

This principle holds true for spiritual life. In the spiritual advance, every believer has the opportunity to move from infancy, through adolescence, to spiritual maturity, which is the place of maximum service. Not many reach that point. Even fewer move beyond it.

In order to go from maturity to the higher

ground of hero of faith status, the believer must pass through the minefield of the Valley of Baca, mentioned in Psalm 84: 5-7. This is a painful journey that the believer must make alone with God. If he makes it through, he will be wounded and scared, but he will have learned the healing power of faith and he will be a hero. The believer who continues his climb will reach the highest status possible as a member of the human race—he will become a friend of God (James 2: 23-25).

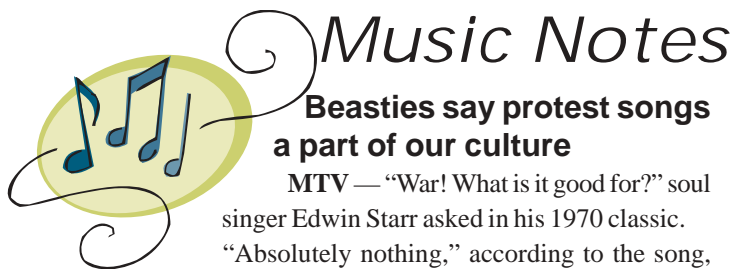


Chap. (Maj.) Marvin Luckie

In Philippians 3 the apostle Paul, who is clearly by this point a hero in the strife, encourages the Philippians believers to stay focused, as he has, on the grace of God in Christ.

He gives an account of his own advance — the obstacles that could have hindered him and the objective he continued to drive toward. From 2 Timothy 4:6-8 we know that before he died, Paul reached his goal.

Come and let's talk about the only secure investment in this life. You can put your resources in land, you can put them in gold or silver, you can put them in the stock market, you can put them under the house, but you are still going to lose them. The only investment that guarantees a permanent return is the investment of your time in the plan of God.



## Beasties say protest songs a part of our culture

MTV — “War! What is it good for?” soul singer Edwin Starr asked in his 1970 classic.

“Absolutely nothing,” according to the song, although as Starr himself proved, war is at least good for inspiring socially conscious music, if not timeless anthems.

And just as the Vietnam War prompted John Lennon to write “Imagine” and Bob Dylan to pen “Blowin’ in the Wind,” the conflict in Iraq has motivated artists from the Beastie Boys to Robbie Williams to express their views via song.

As America continues shipping troops to the Middle East, a new generation of artists seems to have found its voice with a string of singles and videos released in recent weeks promoting peace.

“It just kind of felt like to not speak out now would be a real mistake,” said Mike D of the Beastie Boys, who released the anti-war tune “In a World Gone Mad” on their Website.

## War protesters march on U.S. Embassies

MTV — Not long after U.S. missiles were fired against Baghdad, anti-war protesters began demonstrating in major cities around the globe, while still others turned to Internet to be heard.

In Melbourne, Australia's second largest city, 40,000 protesters gathered in the streets just three hours after the war began, *Reuters* reported. Additional protests are planned in major cities in Australia and New Zealand.

Many people say they oppose the war because they think Bush failed to prove that Iraq has weapons of mass destruction or connections with al-Qaida. Some also see a disturbing unilateralist stance.

“What is George W. Bush thinking?” wrote Ryan, a 22-year-old

(Compiled from MTV.com)

from New Zealand, in an e-mail to MTV. “He is more of a threat to the rest of the world than Saddam Hussein is to any of us. As a very concerned international observer, I wonder if this is just Bush's first step toward an effort to rule the world.”

## ‘Superman’ movie still has no Superman

MTV — Director Brett Ratner has left the “Superman” project, citing the difficulty of casting the Man of Steel.

Ratner came onboard the project roughly six months ago, working with a script from “Alias” creator J.J. Abrams after previous director McG dropped out to make “Charlie's Angels: Full Throttle.” Ratner met with a number of actors for the title role, including Josh Hartnett (“Pearl Harbor”), Paul Walker (“The Fast and the Furious”), Brendan Fraser (“The Mummy”) and soap star Matthew Bomer.

## Bagram Air Base MWR presents

2000 hrs. at the MWR building, “The Ring.” A killer video that really kills. A week after watching it, viewers drop dead in this sci-fi chiller that's a remake of a Japanese classic.

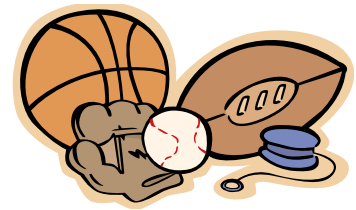
Tomorrow's movie will be “Tuck Everlasting.”





# Coalition Sports Zone

(Compiled from *ESPN.com*)



## Wizards must take it slow on the road

**ESPN** — The Symptoms: The Wizards are locked in a death-grip fight with the Milwaukee Bucks for the eighth and final playoff spot in the Eastern Conference — and both are keeping a wary eye on the New York Knicks, who keep appearing in the rearview mirror. The Wiz are 32-35 — a half-game behind the Bucks going into Friday's game at Phoenix.

Washington has been on the playoff bubble all season. Its best record was when it reached two games over .500 — at 6-4. Since then, the Wizards have hovered over or dipped under the break-even mark.

They face five more games on this trip and overall play 11 out of their 15 remaining games on the road, where they are only 9-21 to date. The Bucks have 14 games remaining, seven at home and seven away.

Wizards coach Doug Collins feels that his team must win 41 games to make the playoffs — a daunting task in view of its remaining schedule and its lack of success as a visiting team.

The Diagnosis: For most teams, the odds against such an accomplishment would be overwhelming. But the Wizards aren't like most teams. They have Michael Jordan on their side — and MJ has promised to leave no unspent energy in his quest to take his team to the playoffs. At 40 years of age, Michael still puts up big numbers — 43 points against New Jersey, 39 against the Knicks, 30 against Dallas. He also defends, rebounds, assists and becomes a playmaker when necessary. MJ averages just under 20 points, about six rebounds and four assists a game and leads his team in steals and floor burns.



*The Bucks are eighth in the East but only 6-8 with Gary Payton.*

## Nothing alarming about struggles

**ESPN** — If it's not an adage for NBA coaches, it should be: Get along with your best player or they'll be getting along without you.

A coach can complain all he wants about his star — and many do — but at the end of the day he better make sure his star knows he's the star. Bucks coach George Karl, unable to stomach doing

that with Ray Allen any longer, replaced him with a star to whom he doesn't mind catering, Gary Payton.

Karl, of course, is not the first to make this move. He'd just be the first to make it actually work. In recent memory, Don Nelson tried it by dealing rookie Chris Webber for Tom Gugliotta. P.J. Carlesimo did it by dealing Latrell Sprewell for John Starks, Chris Mills and Terry Cummings. Scott Skiles did it by going along with the trade of Jason Kidd for Stephon Marbury. John Lucas waved goodbye to Andre Miller.

In other words, that ticking you hear in Milwaukee is not the radiator kicking up.

## Bibby's clutch shots help Kings to victory

**SACRAMENTO, Calif.**

— For three quarters, the Sacramento Kings stood around on offense, got lost on defense and childishly berated the referees.

And yet when they finally gathered their wits and shut their mouths, they still had plenty of time to finish off the Los Angeles Lakers.

Chris Webber had 26 points and 11 rebounds, and Mike Bibby hit two big jumpers down the stretch as the Kings beat the Lakers 107-99 Thursday night.



*Chris Webber had 26 points and 11 rebounds as the Kings edged the Lakers.*

The Kings also got three technical fouls for arguing a series of calls — some questionable, others completely ordinary. Their excess of emotion eventually wore off, but even their coach was a bit chagrined.

The whole affair added a few more topics of discussion to the NBA's most entertaining rivalry — and the Lakers seized on yet another chance to needle and belittle the Kings, even in defeat.

## San Antonio moves closer to Dallas

**DALLAS** — The description of Tony Parker's winning basket Thursday night sounds more like a tricky H-O-R-S-E shot than anything a coach would design in a huddle: Drive by the defensive specialist, flip the ball over two onrushing 7-footers and swish it into the net.

Parker pulled it off with 1.2 seconds left in overtime, giving the

**SPORTS**, from Page B4

San Antonio Spurs a 112-110 victory over the Dallas Mavericks in a thrilling, pivotal matchup of the NBA's top two teams.

"We just happened to make the last shot," Spurs coach Gregg Popovich said. "If there were three more seconds, they probably would've went down and scored."

Tim Duncan had 25 points and 18 rebounds, and Parker and Malik Rose each had 22 as San Antonio moved within 2½ games of Dallas in the race for the league's best record and, just as importantly, the Midwest Division.

**Artest suspended again**

**INDIANAPOLIS** — Another flagrant foul, another suspension for Ron Artest.

The Indiana Pacers' swingman was banned for two games Thursday, raising the total of games he's missed because of NBA punishment this season to 10.

This time, the league upheld a flagrant foul call on Artest just five seconds into Wednesday night's game against Boston, calling for an automatic two-game suspension for exceeding the limit on flagrant-foul points.

## Solution from Friday's Percussion Session Crossword in the *Freedom Watch*

(Courtesy of QUIZLAND.com)

**2002 NBA standings****Eastern Conference****Atlantic**

(2) New Jersey	41-27
(3) Philadelphia	40-28
(6) Boston	38-30
(7) Orlando	36-33
Washington	32-35

**Central**

(1) Detroit	43-24
(4) Indiana	41-28
(5) New Orleans	39-30
(8) Milwaukee	33-35
Atlanta	28-42

**Western Conference****Midwest**

(1) Dallas	51-17
(3) San Antonio	48-19
(5) Minnesota	44-26
(6) Utah	39-29
(8) Houston	35-32

**Pacific**

(2) Sacramento	48-21
(4) Portland	44-24
(7) L.A. Lakers	38-29
Phoenix	35-32
Golden State	33-35



By Mark Baker

## Pvt. Murphy's Law



### *Kandahar chapel hours*

#### **Sunday**

- ❖ 0500Z — Roman Catholic mass
- ❖ 0630Z — Protestant worship
- ❖ 0830Z — Latter-Day Saints worship
- ❖ 1130Z — Roman Catholic mass
- ❖ 1430Z — Gospel service

#### **Monday**

- ❖ 1130Z — Rosary and prayers
- ❖ 1430Z — Gospel choir practice

#### **Tuesday**

- ❖ 1130Z — Orthodox/Catholic Bible study
- ❖ 1430Z — Protestant Bible study

#### **Wednesday**

- ❖ 1130Z — Roman Catholic mass
- ❖ 1430Z — Protestant mid-week service

#### **Thursday**

- ❖ 1430Z — Gospel Bible study

#### **Friday**

- ❖ 0830Z — Islamic Jumaa'h prayer
- ❖ 1130Z — Orthodox Christian hymn service
- ❖ 1430Z — Jewish prayer

#### **Saturday**

- ❖ 0530Z — Seventh-Day Adventist worship
- ❖ 1130Z — Orthodox Christian Divine Liturgy
- ❖ 1430Z — Gospel Choir practice

### *Bagram chapel hours*

#### **Sunday**

- ❖ 0500Z — Roman Catholic mass
- ❖ 0530Z — Liturgical Protestant worship
- ❖ 0630Z — Protestant worship
- ❖ 0830Z — Latter-Day Saints worship
- ❖ 1400Z — Gospel service

#### **Monday**

- ❖ 0700Z — Roman Catholic Mass

#### **Tuesday**

- ❖ 0700Z — Roman Catholic Mass

#### **Wednesday**

- ❖ 0700Z — Roman Catholic Mass
- ❖ 1430Z — Christian mid-week service

#### **Thursday**

- ❖ 0700Z — Roman Catholic Mass
- ❖ 1330Z — Bible study
- ❖ 1600Z — Catholic praise team

#### **Friday**

- ❖ 0700Z — Roman Catholic Mass
- ❖ 0830Z — Islamic Jumaa'h prayer
- ❖ 1430Z — Jewish prayer

#### **Saturday**

- ❖ 0530Z — Seventh-Day Adventist worship
- ❖ 1330Z — Mentor's meeting
- ❖ 1400Z — Gospel Choir practice
- ❖ 1515Z — Roman Catholic Mass

### *K2 chapel hours*

#### **Sunday**

- ❖ 0330Z — Liturgical service
- ❖ 0430Z, 1200Z — General protestant service
- ❖ 0600Z — Roman Catholic Mass
- ❖ 1300Z — Latter Day Saints

#### **Monday**

- ❖ 0430Z — Devotions and prayer
- ❖ 1245Z — Catholic Rosary and Mass

#### **Tuesday**

- ❖ 0430Z — Devotions and prayer
- ❖ 1245Z — Catholic Rosary and Mass
- ❖ 1430Z — Bible study

#### **Wednesday**

- ❖ 0430Z — Devotions and prayer
- ❖ 1245Z — Catholic Rosary and Mass
- ❖ 1430Z — Midweek Praise service

#### **Thursday**

- ❖ 0430Z — Devotions and prayer
- ❖ 1245Z — Catholic Rosary and Mass

#### **Friday**

- ❖ 0430Z — Devotions and prayer
- ❖ 1245Z — Catholic Rosary and Mass
- ❖ 1430Z — Bible study

#### **Saturday**

- ❖ 0430Z — Devotions and prayer
- ❖ 1200Z — Roman Catholic Mass

### *CJCMOTF chapel hours*

#### **Sunday**

- ❖ 0630Z — Nondenominational service

#### **Tuesday**

- ❖ 1430Z — Catholic service (every other Tuesday)

#### **Wednesday**

- ❖ 1430Z — Bible study



**Weather**  
Today  
Sunday  
Monday

#### **Bagram**



Hi — 70F  
Lo — 45F



Hi — 54F  
Lo — 45F



Hi — 55F  
Lo — 43F

#### **K2**



Hi — 70F  
Lo — 50F



Hi — 65F  
Lo — 49F



Hi — 67F  
Lo — 44F

#### **Kabul**



Hi — 66F  
Lo — 48F



Hi — 61F  
Lo — 45F



Hi — 61F  
Lo — 42F

#### **KAF**



Hi — 68F  
Lo — 55F



Hi — 73F  
Lo — 51F



Hi — 77F  
Lo — 46F

### *KMTC chapel hours*

#### **Sunday**

- ❖ 0430Z — Protestant Service
- ❖ 0530Z — Roman Catholic Mass/Eucharist
- ❖ 0630Z — Latter Day Saints
- ❖ 1630Z — Protestant Service

#### **Wednesday**

- ❖ 1430Z — Bible Study

#### **Friday**

- ❖ 1530Z — Thank God It's Friday fellowship and singing

All events are held in FOB195 Chapel/Conference Room area.